

Message Text

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67

ACTION AF-18

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FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8559
INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN
AMCONSUL DURBAN
AMEMBASSY GABORONE
AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MASERU
AMEMBASSY MBABANE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, SCUL, SF

SUBJECT: SAG MINISTER OF DEFENSE ATTACKS USSALEP

1. ADDRESSING NATIONAL PARTY'S CAPE CONGRESS AT
OUTDSHOORN SEPTEMBER 4, MINISTER OF DEFENSE P.W.
BOTH A ATTACKED LIBERAL ORGANIZATIONS SUCH AS VERLIGTE
ACTION AND THEO GERDENER'S PROPOSED NEW POLITICAL
PARTY. HE ALSO ZEROED IN ON UNITED STATES-SOUTH
AFRICAN LEADERSHIP EXCHANGE PROGRAM (USSALEP).

2. ACCORDING TO SABC AND NEWSPAPER ACCOUNTS, BOTH A
ADVISED NATIONALISTS TO WITHDRAW THEIR SUPPORT OF
USSALEP. HE ASKED NATIONALISTS WHO SUPPORTED USSALEP
"WHETHER IT IS CORRECT THAT THERE ARE MEMBERS OF THE
UNITED STATES COUNCIL FOR FOREIGN RELATIONS WHO
PLAY AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN USSALEP. I DON'T THINK
THAT CAN BE DENIED."

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3. BOTHA WENT ON TO SAY: "I WANT TO ASK WHETHER IT IS TRUE THAT THERE IS A MEMBER OF THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS, MR. JOHN R. HARRY (SIC) WHO TABLED A FULL LIST OF THE NAMES OF THE MEMBERS OF COUNCIL FOR FOREIGN RELATIONS IN THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES. IS IT NOT ALSO TRUE THAT IT HAS BEEN SAID OF THIS COUNCIL BY AN AUTHORITY WHO KNOWS WHAT HE IS TALKING ABOUT, IN HIS BOOK 'THE INVISIBLE GOVERNMENT', THAT THE ULTIMATE AIM OF THE COUNCIL FOR FOREIGN RELATIONS IS, AS THE ULTIMATE AIM OF INTERNATIONAL COMMUNISM, TO CREATE A WORLD SOCIALIST SYSTEM AND THE UNITED STATES AS PART OF IT?"

4. BOTHA CONCLUDED: "THAT IS WHY I SAY THAT I CANNOT BUT HELP ASKING NATIONALISTS TO WITHDRAW FROM USSALEP WHILE IT IS BUSY FLIRTING WITH ORGANIZATIONS LIKE THIS MOVEMENT THE CFR OF THE UNITED STATES."

5. SPEAKING TO EMBOFFS THIS MORNING (SEPT 5), USSALEP DIRECTOR WILLEM GROBLER SAID ORGANIZATION WOULD ISSUE THIS EVENING LOW-KEY STATEMENT TO PRESS IN NAME OF CHAIRMAN OF ITS BOARD OF DIRECTORS, DAWID DE VILLIERS. STATEMENT WILL POINT OUT THAT, ALTHOUGH SOME AMERICAN MEMBERS OF USSALEP MAY BE MEMBERS OF COUNCIL OF FOREIGN RELATIONS (CFR), USSALEP HAS NO FORMAL TIE WITH CFR. IT WILL ALSO POINT OUT PRESTIGIOUS QUALITY OF CFR'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND ITS MEMBERSHIP. STATEMENT WILL IMPLY THAT IT WOULD HAVE BEEN BETTER IF BOTHA HAD CHECKED FACTS BEFORE MAKING HIS ACCUSATION.

6. GROBLER BELIEVES, AS DO WE, THAT BOTHA USED THIS PARTICULAR PIECE OF MISINFORMATION IN HIS SPEECH AT NP CONGRESS TO DEMONSTRATE HE JUST AS TOUGH AS SAG MININTERIOR AND INFORMATION CONNIE MULDER, WHO HAS BEEN DISPLAYING HIS VERKRAMPTE SIDE RECENTLY. NP CONGRESSES INVARIABLY BRING OUT WORST IN NATIONALIST POLITICIANS, WHO FLAIL AWAY AT "INTEGRATIONISTS", "LEFTIST-LIBERALS" AND OTHER OPPONENTS OF NP AND WHITE DOMINATION OF SA. AS WE HAVE NOTED (A-159), NATIONALISTS ARE IN VERKRAMPTE MOOD, DURING WHICH LEVEL OF REPRESSION LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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OF DISSIDENTS IN SA AND OF REACTIONARY RHETORIC WILL BE HIGH.

7. ALTHOUGH BOTHA'S CHARGES ARE PATENTLY LUDICROUS, GROBLER BELIEVES THAT "IF WRONG IMAGE STANDS" USSALEP COULD BE SERIOUSLY DAMAGED. ONE MEMBER OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS TOLD HIM THAT IF RECORD NOT SET RIGHT, HE WOULD HAVE TO LEAVE BOARD. GROBLER INTENDS VOICE HIS CONCERN TO

DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, AS WELL AS ISSUE STATEMENT
PARA (5) ABOVE. HE HOPES, BECAUSE BOTHA'S ACCUSATION
SO CLEARLY BASELESS, THAT INFLUENTIAL AFRIKANER
NATIONALISTS WILL VOICE SUPPORT FOR USSALEP. FACT
THAT DE VILLIERS, HEAD OF NASIONALE PERS, AFRIKAANS
NEWSPAPER GROUP, IS CHAIRMAN OF BOARD WILL, GROBLER
FEELS, HELP.
SMITH

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